



COOP/COG Program Office

Continuity of Operation Planning / Continuity of Government Newsletter

Edition No. 16 November 2008

This newsletter is developed to inform employees of the State of Colorado on the efforts being performed to ensure the recovery of critical functions and the safety of employees in the face of man-made, or natural disaster.

Introduction

Welcome to the sixteenth edition of the COOP/COG newsletter. This newsletter is intended to keep employees informed about this important effort which could affect us all as employees and also residents of Colorado. This newsletter will be produced on a regular basis to show the progress being made and benefits to citizens, employees, and State government itself. Feel free to ask questions and provide feedback as this is a collaborative effort that affects everyone.

Training

Over the last four weeks, 24 State employees attended Continuity training with either FEMA or the Disaster Recovery Institute. There may have been others who did online or class room training as well. This is positive recognition of the importance of Continuity Planning in State Government and an excellent forum for those in attendance to hear how other Government agencies at the Local and Federal level are addressing Continuity.

Additional classes are planned for the New Year and if you are interested please contact kent.smiley@State.co.us to be included.

Federal, State and Local Continuity Meeting

The main message at the Federal, State and Local meeting last month from Gary Briece, FEMA Region VIII Administrator, was the importance of developing a continuity plan that suited your agency. He said it was also important for the plan to be simple enough for you to implement vs. having a large plan that cannot be used in a time of crisis.

The other presentation was on the new State, Local and Tribal Continuity Guidance Circular 1. A link to the presentation can be found at :-

<http://training.fema.gov/TEConf/doc/May%2015%20-%20Day%204/COOP.ppt>

The document is still a draft that will be distributed to everyone on the Continuity Mailing list on its release. Some major points on the document include the support of National Essential Functions, the use of Risk Management as a planning tool, multi-year planning, and integration and coordination with Federal, State, Local and Private Enterprise.

For more information

Kent Smiley
COOP/COG Program Manager
303 866 3830 (Office), kent.smiley@state.co.us